STATE/UT's		Production (000'MT)	Production (000'MT)
Jharkhand	65.0	84.3	-19.3
Karnataka	230.0	269.0	-39.0
Madhya Pradesh	3520.0	3992.8	-472.8
Maharashtra	1182.0	1231.0	-49.0
Orissa	4.0	3.9	0.1
Pūnjab	3480.0	3467.0	13.0
Rajasthan	2565.0	2564.8	0.2
Uttar Pradesh	8741.0	9197.6	-456.6
Uttaranchal	397.0	391.0	6.0
West Bengal	400.00	350.6	49.4
Others	43.0	32.1	10.9
ALL-INDIA:	27199.0	27994.5	-795.5

* Released on 07 02.2008

Taking away of major share of farm prices by middlemen

1566. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India grows nearly 11 per cent of all the world's vegetables and 15 per cent of all fruits;

(b) whether India's share in global market is only 1.7 per cent in vegetables and 0.5 per cent in fruit;

(c) whether the Indian farmer receives less than a fifth of the high price that the consumer pays and the lion's share is usurped by the long chain of assorted middlemen, transport, wholesalers, and retailers who bring the produce from farm to market;

(d) if so, how pathetic is plight of farmer; and

(e) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) India Produces around 111.77 Million MTs of vegetables and 57.73 million of MTs of fruits, which accounts for nearly 11.90 per cent and 10.90 per cent of country's share in the world production of vegetables and fruits, respectively. While the India' share in the global market in vegetables and fruits stands at 1.70 per cent and 0.50 per cent respectively. Details of production of vegetables and fruits and export of horiticulture products are given in Statement I & II (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Most of the agricultural commodity markets generally operate under the normal forces of demand and supply. The buying and selling of agricultural produce takes place in the market yards where numbers of market functionaries are involved. The share of producer in consumers price depend upon the types of marketing channels followed in sales transactions by the farmers. The studies indicate that the share of producers varies from 56 to 83 per cent in food grains and 79 to 95 per cent in pulses, 65—96 per cent in oilseeds and 33 to 75 per cent in case of fruit and vegetables. In order to provide the remunerative prices to the farmers, there is a need to eliminate the chain of middlemen etc., by introducing innovative marketing channels like direct marketing, contract farming, etc. and removal of controls on movement and storage of agricultural produce across the country which will facilitate functioning of common Indian market.

Keeping this in view, a Model Law on agricultural marketing has been formulated by the Ministry of Agriculture and circulated to all the States/Union Territories for making necessary amendment in their respective Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act in order to guide them in removal of legal barriers, which introduce inefficiencies and monopoly controls in the functioning of agricultural markets. It redefines the role of present Agricultural Produce Market Committee to promote alternative marketing system, contract farming, direct marketing and farmers/consumers markets. Most of the State Governments have since initiated the process of amendment of APMC Act on the lines suggested in the model law, which will facilitate competitive marketing. Since agriculture marketing is a State subject, it is for the State Governments to amend the APMC Act, wherever required, to provide for alternate marketing channels to the farmers through direct marketing, contract farming and setting up of markets in cooperative and private sector to enable him to decide the channel which provide him the best remunerative price for his agricultural produce.

In addition, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal" and "National Horticulture Mission" besides Schemes on (i) Development of Commercial Horticulture through production and post harvest management and (ii) capital investment subsidy for construction/ expansion/modernization of cold storages/storage of horticultural produce of National Horticulture Board. Under the above mentioned schemes, assistance is being provided to State Governments and entrepreneurs for development of infrastructure for post havrvest management and marketing of horticulture produce, which in turn help farmers in getting remunerative prices.

Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of State Governments/ Union Territories for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities including red chilly generally perishable in nature. MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the vent of bumper crop when there is glut in the market and the prices tend to fall below economic levels/cost of production. Procurement is made by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and State desinated agencies.

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce has established 60 Agri Export Zones in the country for promotion of export of agricultural produce including furits and vegetables.

Statement-I

State-wise production of fruits & vegetables in India-2006

STATE/UT's	Production (000'MT)	Production (000'MT)
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar	20.0	23.0
Andhra Pradesh	10496.0	4210.1
Arunachal Pradesh	107.8	78.8
Assam	*1438.5*	*4449.5*
Bihar	3192.2	13356.7
Chandigarh	1.1	1.7
Chhattisgarh	652.5	2456.6
D&N Haveli	7.1	13.5
Daman & Diu	*0.0*	*0.2*
Delhi	1.0	672.0
Goa	183.8	165.2
Gujarat	5250.3	6051.6
Haryana	241.9	3366.8
Himachal Pradesh	366.2	975.7
Jammu & Kashmir	1418.8	1039.9
Jharkhand	402.6	3203.7
Karnataka	4369.1	4457.4
Kerala	2526.8	2543.8
Lakshadweep	1.1	14.0
Madhya Pradesh	1173.0	2796.0
Maharashtra	10324.4	4214.4
Manipur	189.1	67.0
Meghalaya	235.3	345.4
Mizoram	120.2	48.5
Nagaland	48.9	88.1
Orissa	1411.2	8200.4
Pondicherry	21.1	74.7
Punjab	830.6	2518.2
Rajasthan	410.4	778.5
Sikkim	13.4	80.8
Tamil Nadu	5253.0	7350.0
Tripura	525.1	373.7
Uttar Pradesh	3142.6	17555.3
Uttaranchal	710.9	1004.0
West Bengal	2640.5	19194.6
TOTAL:	57726.8	111769.7

SOURCE: National Horticulture Board

Statement - II

Export of horticultural products (2006-07)

	MTs.	Rs. in crores
Floriculture & Seeds		
Floriculture	42016.60	649.83
Fruits & Vegetables Seeds	8031.09	121.47
Total for Cloriculture & Seeds	**50047.69**	**771.3**
Fruits and Vegetables		
Fresh onions	1378373.17	1163.31
Other Fresh Vegetables	275907.23	430.01
Dried Nuts (Walnuts)	5062.06	118.03
Fresh Mangoes	79060.88	141.94
Fresh Grapes	85897.78	301.92
Other Fresh Fruits	159569.43	256.44
Total for Fruits and Vegetables	**1983870.55**	**2411.65**
Processed Fruits & Vegetables		
Dried & Preserved Vegetables	118787.46	424.06
Mango Pulp	156835.51	505.83
Pickle & Chutney	145216.00	293.59
Other Processed Fruits & Vegetables	129110.05	508.14
Total for Processed fruits & Vegetables	**549949.02**	**1731.62**
	2583867.26	**4914.57**

SOURCE: APEDA

Indigenous seeds

1567. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step to protect indigenous and modern methods and seeds utilized by farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of variety of indigenous seeds collected, preserved and Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies associated with it, States-wise and category-wise, as on today;

(c) the details including the patents granted on genetically modified crops and its farming technologies, if any, to various agencies as on today, category-wise; and

(d) the steps taken, in detail, if any to keep seeds and methods of farming under public domain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi has the national mandate of collecting, evaluating and conserving in its National Genebank the seeds of landraces and folk varieties of crop plants available in traditional production systems of farmers.